

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185915

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 185915 SENT ACTION NATO INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS, VIENNA, USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USLO SACLANT & CINCLANT DATED 23 AUGUST 1974:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185915

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: 1975 MILITARY PROCUREMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT:

IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO

REF: USNATO 4319

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. WE AGREE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 302 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1975 SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF SYG AND THE ALLIES. YOUR LETTER TO THE SYG IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO DO THIS. WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THE LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN QUOTE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 14592, MILITARY PROCUREMENT APPROPRIATIONS-1975 END QUOTE, IS THE SAME AS THAT CONTAINED IN BILL AS SUBSEQUENTLY ENACTED AS PUBLIC LAW 93-365.

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2. WE AGREE THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY OF ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THAT MAY RESULT FROM COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 302. YOU MAY ASSURE THE ALLIES THAT WE WILL CONTINUE OUR USUAL PRACTICE OF CONSULTING WITH THEM ON ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FROM EXISTING POSTURE OR DOCTRINE.

3. WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN YOUR DRAFT LETTER:

A. PARA 2, LINES 8 AND 9. CHANGE TO READ: QUOTE . . .
THUS, THE LAW WILL NOT REQUIRE UNILATERAL US FORCE
REDUCTIONS; IT SIMPLY PERMITS A RESTRUCTURING . . . END
QUOTE.

B. PARA 4, LINES 5 AND 6. DELETE: QUOTE THE UNITED
STATES--AND INDEED END QUOTE.

C. PARA 4, LAST SENTENCE. CHANGE TO READ: QUOTE I WILL
BE SOLICITING YOUR ADVICE . . . END QUOTE. COMMENT: AS
YOU POINT OUT, THE MOST DIFFICULT PORTION OF SECTION 302
TO SATISFY IS ASSESSING COSTS AND LOSS OF COMBAT
EFFECTIVENESS DUE TO LACK OF STANDARDIZATION IN NATO.
PRECISE METHODS FOR CARRYING OUT THIS PROVISION HAVE NOT
YET BEEN DETERMINED. THEREFORE, WE WISH TO DELAY ANY
REQUEST TO THE ALLIES FOR ASSISTANCE UNTIL WE DETERMINE
HOW WE ARE GOING TO APPROACH THIS. WE WILL KEEP YOU
ADVISED. KISSINGER UNQTE KISSINGER

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